



Oct/Nov 2022

Issue 266

Scottish Charity SC000785

GRAPEVINE

Mayfield Salisbury Parish (Edinburgh) Church of Scotland



FOODBANK DONATIONS

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

GIFT SERVICE - 27 NOVEMBER

SOUTHSIDE FAITH CARE

www.mayfieldsalisbury.org

FROM THE MANSE

Dear Friends,

In this momentous month we have seen the passing away of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the fitting solemnity and dignity of both the service in St Giles and the state funeral. Her lifelong dedication, service and sense of duty has been rightly lauded from many quarters. And in identifying the motivation for the living of her life in that way, the media and the public at large have had to wrestle with a subject which is often sidelined from public discussion in a secular society; seen as somewhat outdated, irrelevant, deluded or even harmful as a motivation for living – her Christian faith.

Particularly in the last two decades, the late Queen was increasingly forthright about her faith being the foundation of her life's work, whilst respecting those whose views and beliefs differed from her own. For example, from her Christmas message in 2012: 'This is the time of year when we remember that God sent his only son 'to serve, not to be served'. He restored love and service to the centre of our lives in the person of Jesus Christ. It is my prayer this Christmas Day that his example and teaching will continue to bring people together to give the best of themselves in the service of others.' And in 2014 – 'For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and an anchor in my life.'

At the funeral service in Westminster Abbey, the Archbishop of Canterbury spoke to many tens of millions across the world in his sermon, and linked the Queen's life directly to the foundations of Christianity, saying: 'We will all face the merciful judgement of God: we can all share the Queen's hope which in life and death inspired her servant leadership. Service in life, hope in death.'



With the dwindling numbers of those in the United Kingdom who have adherence to the institutional Christian churches, and the increasing percentage of people who are either apathetic or hostile to faith, the assumed right of Christianity to play centre stage at such a national event has been called into question once more. But somehow for most people, that assumption still seems right and proper, even though they would have little intention of ever opening a Bible or attending a church service. It's the reservoir of what the sociologist Grace Davie calls 'vicarious religion', where many are content that there are religious people worshipping or praying on their behalf, but would have no intention of being one themselves. They might like the re-assuring and comforting sight of the spires on the skyline; they might see cathedrals as spiritual and historical places that are worth a visit, but believing

in God and practising faith, or even contributing to the ongoing presence of those communities or buildings 'is not for the likes of them'.

The stark contrast between tolerance or tacit support of the Christian church, and a distance from any form of direct engagement in its rituals or communities, has increasingly stark practical consequences for large denominations like the Church of Scotland. It's all very well being centre stage at the monarch's funeral, but if you can't pay the bills, then there are problems. Put simply, from historical divisions and reunions, there are now far too many buildings and congregations in the Church of Scotland, and not enough people or ministers. And as the Church is a voluntary organisation that pays for itself, with no state subsidy unlike many European countries, fewer people, ministers and money means that significant cuts have to be made. Presbytery Plans for re-structuring are being drafted across the country that will make radical changes. Buildings will close, large parishes will result from multiple unions, and pain will be felt in many places. The hope and trust in doing so, however, is that God will be active and will also lead us in creative and innovative forms of planning that might provide the platform for mission in the future, and for new seeds of growth.

As church buildings are sold off in the next year or two across Scotland, will the public really care? The poet Philip Larkin, cynical himself about Christianity, wrote the poem 'Church Going' in 1955, which tells of him stepping into a small empty church on a bicycle trip, and begins:

*'When churches fall completely out of use
What we shall turn them into, if we shall keep
A few cathedrals chronically on show,
Their parchment, plate, and pyx in
locked cases,
And let the rest rent-free to rain & sheep.
Shall we avoid them as unlucky places?'*

And then, surprisingly, the agnostic/atheist Larkin does not ridicule its existence, or mock the small handful of those who turn up through its doors every week, but instead reflects that the church might be there for him as well as them; that it might have a public purpose as well as a private one:

*'It pleases me to stand in silence here;
A serious house on serious earth it is,
In whose blent air all our compulsions meet,
Are recognised, and robed as destinies.
And that much never can be obsolete,
Since someone will forever be surprising
A hunger in himself to be more serious,
And gravitating with it to this ground...'*

Even the most sceptical of human beings may one day 'be surprising a hunger in themselves to be more serious'; to think beyond their own rational senses to the possible existence of a deity. Even to stop; to meditate; perhaps to pray. As Christians, our witness is always to be there to express our own faith in who we are and what we do; but also to hold open the doors for others to embark on their own spiritual journeys of discovery. No matter whether institutions fall or rise, enabling encounters with God is the key. The Church might have left the building, but God has not left the neighbourhood.

There will always be a public purpose. The message of resilient hope in Christianity will find a resonance, even in the most unexpected places. For as the Archbishop concluded in his sermon, 'Christian hope means certain expectation of something not yet seen. Christ rose from the dead and offers life to all, abundant life now and life with God in eternity.'

God bless,

Sandy

SOUTHSIDE FAITH CARE

*Craigmillar Park Marchmont St Giles
Mayfield Salisbury Morningside United
Priestfield St Catherine's Argyle Reid
Memorial*

These church communities represented within Southside Faith Care are already engaging successfully in a large range of initiatives alongside older people. However the scoping exercise they undertook together has demonstrated the opportunities to provide better and more integrated care in the local community. The Covid pandemic and how we think about life have accelerated the rate of social isolation and loneliness and weakened community resilience.

It has become clear that the unique situation of these churches is their network of relationships and understanding of the individuals who are part of the church community. The community leaders interviewed have great sensitivity and awareness for the complex and specific needs of the people they work with. Their knowledge and care is invaluable in communities for more vulnerable people.

There is great potential for rebuilding community resilience, providing opportunities for individuals struggling with loneliness, addressing social isolation, collaborating with other local initiatives and developing the work of current groups. Going forward we should aim to address the gaps in existing provision, whilst being alert to duplication of what is currently available.

These are the conclusions of the report from the consultant some of you talked to as she went about her research and we thank you all warmly for your willingness to help. You can find the full report at www.mayfieldsalisbury.org It's short and very readable! More importantly, you have been heard. They are quite comforting words and they may reinforce what we already know. Our reality! But it is not the reality for many.

In essence Southside Faith Care has vision that we build a society where every older



person is enabled to have the care and support to live the life they choose. For each of us, positive physical and mental health has an impact on how we are a part of our community. Evidence shows that those who have access to good social networks and support are more resilient and likely to recover when unwell. If like me you resist the 'older' label, then perhaps we are looking for ways to kick away the stereotypes and images, grin instead of grimace when the knees creak, and just get on with it.

However as members of a faith community we are very fortunate because we have opportunities on our doorstep to enable us to live the lives we choose. Armed with the evidence you have provided, we are challenged as Southside Faith Care to widen our reach and find ways of working together. As part of the process, we are in becoming an independent charity.

We have secured most of the funding we need to establish a hub which will operate across the southside bringing on new projects and supporting existing ones, all the while listening to what you are telling us. You have asked for exercise classes; for information about many topics; help with the dreaded IT; opportunities to sing; a drop in place to meet and chat; a listening ear; coffee and chocolate biscuits; home security advice; day trips; and much more.

The Tor Christian Foundation has awarded to fully fund year 1 (£100,400) with future funding for years 2 and 3, dependent on 50% of costs being contributed/raised by the churches so Tor would fund £37,870 for year 2 and £39,665 for year 3.

We are working on it so watch this space!

THE CHOIR



Walter Thomson
0131 662 0405
walterthomson@hotmail.co.uk

It is lovely to have the choir and Chamber Group back for this Sunday. The numbers of volunteers are dwindling and it would be great to have some new voices joining us - you would be made very welcome!

We practise for about an hour on Thursday evenings and have a run through before the 10.45am service on Sunday. While some musical literacy is useful it is not essential and the expert members of the Chamber Group provide support and help in learning the music.

We rehearse music a week or two ahead so if you can't manage every rehearsal and Sunday we would still be glad to see you for what you could manage. If you are interested, or want to find out more, speak to our choir leader Walter Thomson.

SOUND DESK



William Mearns
0780 801 1234
churchmanager@googlemail.com

It is very important that we have an effective sound system to support our services. For over 10 years we have been served by a set of volunteers who each take on operating the sound desk for one month each year at the 10.45am service. Unfortunately this group has recently reduced in number and it is unreasonable to have to ask those remaining to increase their involvement. We thus urgently need new individuals to join the team so that we can continue to provide high quality sound in the sanctuary.

William sets up the system each Sunday (before he moves over to operate the live streaming) and the sound desk operator only has to operate the sliders to turn on the microphones for the minister, lectern reader, pulpit etc. as required. Introduction and training can be readily provided for individuals who are prepared to join the team.

GIVING QR CODE



Hugh Somerville
hs.somerville2@gmail.com
0131 466 2446

Today you will see we have added a QR code to this magazine and larger versions near the exit doors. Our Quick Response code is a handy way of using your smart phone or tablet's QR app to link you to our Giving Page. Once you have joined the Giving Page all the usual protocols and safeguards are still operative. The Kirk Session wishes to express its continuing gratitude to those who support the Church's work through their offerings. Covid restrictions have prevented circulation of the 'plate' during services but those who would have wished to use it may make use of the bowls marked 'Plate Collection' situated in the vestibule and halls entrance, at the close of the service .

Regular and one-off donations are possible online at www.give.net/20311853 or please contact our Freewill Offerings Treasurer, Hugh Somerville.

AFTERNOON SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

TUESDAY 15
NOVEMBER 2022
2.30PM to 3.30PM



Anne Sturrock

Our Afternoon Service of Remembrance will be on **Tuesday 15 NOVEMBER** at 2.30pm and will be led by Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth in the Bill McDonald Hall via West Mayfield level access. Proceedings usually finish at 3.45pm at the latest.

Everyone always made most welcome. You might find this less formal worship style a good opportunity to renew friendships after isolation over recent times. If you haven't joined us before why not come this time and if you would like to bring someone with you for company or assistance, please do! To make things comfortable for all, we remain seated around our tables for 4 to 6 people for the Service and the light refreshments that follow. If you would appreciate further information please speak with Kay McIntosh or your Pastoral Visitor (PV) - or Anne Sturrock. Kay would appreciate having your name in advance if you intend to be present, to enable us to plan safe seating and judge catering. Her number is 07587 043 191.

This will be the last Service in 2022. Dates for Afternoon Services in 2023 are: Tuesday 7 March, Tuesday 16 May, Tuesday 11 July, Tuesday 12 September and Tuesday 14 November 2023.

GOLDEN THREADS REAWAKENED Weaving a Legacy

From a box of golden threads that lay unopened for 70 years came an inspiring story that has been translated into a tapestry with a powerful message which resonates with what is happening in our world today. Themes of refugee travel and survival, avoiding conflict, reaching out, building bridges and seeking to make

the world a better place are imagined in this creative piece woven and collated by seventeen local women. The Golden Threads Reawakened can be seen at Mayfield Salisbury Church during October.



PASTORAL CARE

At our last meeting of Edinburgh and West Lothian Presbytery, we were being reminded how precious it is to take time out to recharge and ponder.

Here I am in Athens pondering as to how Paul coped in such a foreign land with strange gods. It's just that first initial step for all- to step out in faith with trust.

Pastoral visiting is for all. If you would like to take that first step towards a regular phone call or a visit, get in touch. Or perhaps you would like to join our visiting team. If I can be of any assistance please email or



You can email Kay on 07587 043 191 or pastoralassistantms@gmail.com

Kay

FOODBANK DONATIONS

With the great concern about the cost of living over the winter, we are re-starting collections of tinned and dried food (not fresh food) to give to those who will be in need. Most of the food will be donated to the foodbank which is open on Wednesday afternoons by our friends at Priestfield Parish Church, run via the **Edinburgh**

Food Project. Some will be retained here, in case anyone comes to the church looking for food.

If you would like to donate, there will be a marked collection point (under a bench!) at the side door (West Mayfield) for bags of food to be placed in. Thank you!

COLLECTION POINT



NEWS FROM CHRISTIAN AID



Pakistan

A huge thank-you to everyone who has already responded to Christian Aid's request that we support the DEC Pakistan Floods Appeal. The devastating floods in Pakistan have killed at least 1,100 people, and left more than 6 million in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. The government of Pakistan has called for international assistance to provide humanitarian aid, and in response, the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) have launched an emergency appeal.

Christian Aid is not present in Pakistan, so are not responding directly. Instead, they are asking us to support their fellow DEC member charities, to meet people's basic needs such as food, clean water and shelter. The UK government has announced it will match pound for pound the first £5 million of public donations. You can still donate:

- Online at: www.dec.org.uk/appeal/pakistan-floods-appeal
- By phone on 0330 678 1000.
- By post to Disasters Emergency Comm, PO Box 999, London EC3A 3AA

Thank you!

Christian Aid Team



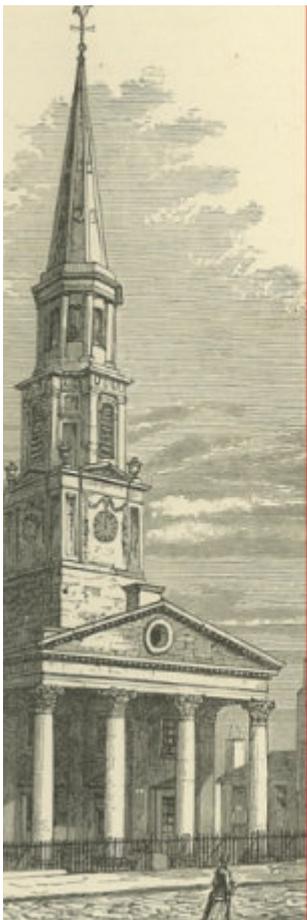
A Prayer for Pakistan

Compassionate God Hear our prayer for the people of Pakistan; For those who have lost their lives in the floods And for those forced from their homes. Yet again, God, it is the poorest who are hit hardest And those with least who lose most. Our hearts are heavy with the Death, distress and destruction we see. But we are not helpless to act. God of love and justice: Call us to generous giving for those in need And urgent action to combat climate chaos. Let those in need today know they are not alone, And unite us in hope For a world where all can live in safety and security. Amen

Visit from Sally Foster-Fulton

On 16 October, we look forward to welcoming Sally Foster-Fulton, head of Christian Aid Scotland, who will address us at our Harvest service. During coffee afterwards, the Christian Aid group will be providing some delicious home-baking for you to enjoy, as well as a chance to buy some of our jams, chutneys and marmalade.

We look forward to seeing you then!



christian
aid

ST ANDREW'S AND
ST GEORGE'S WEST CHURCH
13 GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH

SALE OF PICTURES & SCOTTISH BOOKS

18 – 22 OCTOBER 2022
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 10am – 5pm
THURSDAY open until 7pm
SATURDAY 10am – 3pm

COFFEE MORNING
with JEWELLERY and GIFTS
SATURDAY 22 OCTOBER
10am – noon



Stamp Appeal

The Stamp Appeal is an easy way for your congregation to get involved in the world mission work of the church.

'Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.' Galatians 6:9

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE: Look out for our red stamp-collecting box on the table in the Halls entrance. If you have a large collection, or stamps which you believe to be valuable, please let me know and I'll be happy to pick them up from you in person. Contact Kate O'Brien kate.obrien@hotmail.co.uk tel. 0131 667 4362. Thank you!



KILTWALK SUCCESS!

Thank you very much Mayfield Salisbury friends for sponsoring me in the Kiltwalk. Your generous support of the work of Edinburgh Street Pastors has amounted to more than £2,000!

I thought you might be interested in my Kiltwalk 'experience'. I set out along with hundreds of others, in good walking weather, (it wasn't raining), equipped with Street Pastors rucksack containing not just my sandwiches but also a good supply of lollipops always a fun way to make friends in time honoured Street Pastor fashion!

I was supported by Alastair on his Vespa. He would appear at strategic moments and ply me with cups of tea from his thermos and offer encouragement. I was also joined by Elisa, our German PhD friend studying at the School of Divinity. That was a nice surprise! You've probably met Elisa in Church.

As I began the walk Diana introduced herself. She is a student from Mozambique studying Synthetic Engineering at Edinburgh University. Surprisingly, she asked if she could interview me as part of her project. I told her all about Street Pastors and then she told me all about Synthetic Engineering: bacteria-eating plastics and heavy metals - sounds good to me as long as these bugs remain environmentally friendly!



There was a group from an insurance company whose chosen charity was for Alzheimer's. Both of the young people I spoke to had experience of memory problems in their grandparents.

As I walked along I became aware of a rumbling sound behind me and discovered Robert, a blind man wielding his walking stick on wheels. He couldn't bring his guide



dog in crowds of dog-loving people all keen to pet and distract the dog from guiding, so had to rely on his wheeled walking stick instead. Robert was walking by himself, fundraising for Sense, the national disability charity. He told me he travels nation wide in his work for this charity.

There was a great bevy of Maggie fundraisers kitted out in bright orange t-shirts atop their tartan kilts. I talked to Sarah who had lost a friend to cancer and was keen to fundraise for Maggie's Centre in memory of her. I hadn't heard of the charity SAMM or Support after Murder and Manslaughter. Derek's 17yr old brother had been murdered and this charity supports families similarly bereaved. John was fundraising for a charity that supports families bereaved of a baby. He had suffered such a loss and was walking with his wife and young daughter. Lauren was walking with the Christian Aid team: she is their Community and Events Fundraising Officer and thought she herself ought to take part in one of the events.

Finally I met up with Mariot the granddaughter of Mamie Martin and related to Elsa Monteith's husband John. Mariot was fundraising for the Mamie Martin Fund which finances Malawian girls' education. Mamie and her husband were missionaries in Malawi but Mamie died giving birth to her second baby and the fund was set up in her memory by her daughter Margaret, Mariot's mother!

It was indeed a very interesting Kiltwalk and although there were many sad stories I realised that there are thousands of people involved in fundraising for charities many of which were new to me. Oh and I should say I did hand out my lollipops which brought a smile to lots of faces!

But once again many thanks for your wonderful generosity. It means a lot to my fellow Street Pastors to know you are so supportive of their work.

Jean MacGilchrist

ALAN DICKSON



50 Golden Years as Scout Leader

Aim of the Scout Association

Scouting actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

In partnership with adults, young people take part in fun indoor and outdoor activities. They learn by doing, by sharing in spiritual reflection and by taking responsibility. They make choices, undertake new and challenging activities, and they live their Scout Promise.

It is hard to believe that October 6th 2022 marks 50 years since Alan Dickson became leader of the 28th Salisbury Scout Troop (now the 28th Braid Scout Troop).

Following the move to England of the most able initial leader, John Wood Smith, the Troop had taken a downturn. Alan injected new energy and ideas and since then it has been a magnet for boys, often with a waiting-list. The Troop meets regularly on Friday evenings (imagine giving up one's Friday evenings for 50 years!) for all the regular Troop activities: badge work,

challenges, games, outdoor activities, mystery nights, community work. But Scouting with the 28th offers so much more besides. Perhaps the highlight is the annual Summer Camp – a 10 day adventure in the Highlands. Other trips are part of the experience too, sometimes involving water-sports, hikes or Winter Adventure weekends.

One noticeable feature when attending a Scout Parents' Night or a fund-raising coffee-morning is the sheer fun involved. Alan always exudes a calmness (the planning and hard work carefully concealed) while the boys are centre-stage, running the show with Alan looking as if they have done all the preparation unaided. The film / slide-show of the summer camp is always a masterpiece. The active involvement of parents has been one of the hallmarks of his leadership.

Many of the boys in the 28th achieve Chief Scout's Gold Awards (the top award in the Scout section) and, in previous years, the Chief Scout's Challenges. (They were very honoured when the Chief Scout visited the Troop for a Parents' Night and presented these awards to 4 Patrol Leaders.) In the past, the scouts were encouraged and trained for Scout camping competitions, even winning the Scottish competition

twice; but always the philosophy is not the winning but ensuring that the boys have fun and learn something from the experiences.

Alan devotes considerable energy and thought to developing leadership skills in the boys. The number of weekends and holidays Alan has devoted to the 28th is beyond counting. The friendships made over the years are many, deep and sustaining. Alan has a large and loyal leadership team which is testament to his leadership.

They had special events planned to celebrate the centenary of the troop in 2020, and whilst many of these plans were hampered because of the covid pandemic, the troop still managed to fully function every single week, even during lockdown with a switch to online zoom meetings initially and then, when rules permitted, an ambitious and varied outdoor programme that was a huge success.

Alan has also acted as the Group Scout Leader, working hard to seek out the right leaders for the other sections – Beavers, Cubs and Venture (now Explorer) Scouts, ensuring that the whole Group maintains high standards of Scouting.

This article cannot possibly cover the full list of his achievements on behalf of the 28th (for example his work at District level or international trips) but one particularly noteworthy recognition came in 2013 when Alan received the Silver Wolf Award, the Scout Association's highest award for service to scouting. The Silver Wolf Award was introduced by Lord Baden-Powell and is only awarded 'for service of an exceptional nature'.

Alan's personal qualities which go well beyond the rôle cannot be ignored – his compassion and his sense of duty: he is always willing to go the extra mile, whether in his concern for individual Scouts who face particular challenges at home or at school; or in his willingness to help (usually behind the scenes) with some church or community activity.

The extent to which Alan embodies the aims of Scouting is more than evident: what an example he gives to the Scouts, indeed to the whole Scout Group. And what a debt we at Mayfield Salisbury and the local community owe him. Happy 50th Alan!

*From all at
Mayfield Salisbury Church*

Scout, Cub and Beaver Coffee Morning Saturday 12 November - 10.30am to 12.00pm

The Scouts, Cubs and Beavers will be holding their annual Coffee Morning fundraiser at Mayfield Salisbury Church on Saturday, 12th November. This will be our first Coffee Morning in three years and we look forward to meeting up with all of our friends and supporters. It is the main fundraiser for the year as well as being a happy, friendly, relaxed and fun community event. Funds from the event are used to provide resources for the Group, as well as to support the many activities which the Group undertakes.

Tickets, price £3, provides coffee and scones. They can be purchased for Cubs and Scouts or payment can be made at the door. As well as coffee and chat, come and enjoy the various stalls and games.

Headquarters: Mayfield Salisbury Church, Edinburgh Scottish Charity No SC006141



Scouts

28th Braid



**Volunteering
goes both
ways.**

**It's good for
them, and it's
good for you.**

We all want young people to have the chance to dream big, give it a go, and build skills for life.

But it's not just the young people who benefit from Scouts.

Volunteering is good for boosting your wellbeing, developing CV-friendly skills, making friends and building memories.

Whether you want to support young people or if you're more comfortable planning an adventure from the sidelines, we've got space for you.

Contact alanjdickson@live.co.uk for more details

#GoodForYou

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'THE BREAD OF LIFE'

PSALM 107:1 - 9 JOHN 6:25 - 35, 47 - 51

Following the passing of the late Queen, and for communion

I turned on the lunchtime news clutching forever our relationship with space and the my sandwich, taking a break from universe.

preparing for a case in court the next day.

It was September 11th 2001, twenty-one years ago today. And the images on the screen were of live pictures from New York

of the first tower of the World Trade Centre on fire, just when the second plane flew into the other one before my very eyes. An instant moment that has changed the world since then, and still resonates across the globe. Where were you and what were you doing on that day? Or in 1963 when JFK was shot in Dallas? Or in 1997 when Lady Diana was killed in Paris?

Recent events in Florida with the attempted launch of the Artemis 1 rocket reminded me too of another colossal, era defining moment,

this time less sorrowful than the others I have mentioned. I was only aged one and half on that July evening in 1969, so I don't remember that moment too well. But you might well do. All that happened was that a guy climbed down a ladder and said 'One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind'. But as he did so, Neil Armstrong, in that tiny moment of his foot touching the lunar surface, achieved the greatest act of exploration in human history and redefined

Some instant moments become so significant because they change the course of world history, or mark the end of the life

of a major global figure whose presence has become so interwoven with our own that they almost appear to be part of our lives too. Maybe 8 September 2022 will be seen as such a day too in the eyes of many, with the death of Queen Elizabeth II, the longest reigning monarch in the history of these islands - a woman lauded for her devotion to public duty and the service of others, for her compassion and her generosity of spirit over seven decades of her reign.



Should the momentous event of our Queen's passing be definitive of her, a lady of great Christian faith who, God willing, is now at eternal peace and rest with the God whom she knew and loved, and with those who passed on before her? Perhaps a Christian life is dominated by one moment, maybe when we first felt the presence of God and came to believe, or in the future when we too will pass from this life towards eternity? The real question might be

Sea of Galilee



whether Christianity, as many believe, is all about saving up for an eternal life, putting points in the bank with God for that defining moment when we too meet our maker - or can it be about something more as well, in the here and now?

In our passage today in John, Jesus was standing before a crowd of people who had followed after him across the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum. It was just after the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand. A god-like figure feeding the people like Moses bringing manna from heaven. Bread from heaven would certainly have been in the mind of the crowd. And as they gathered, Jesus repeated four times the image that is the first of his great 'I am' sayings. To tell them in the way that only Jesus could, exactly who he really was, and what his life and death was going to mean. 'I am the bread of life'. I am the bread that came down from heaven'. In other words, Jesus says I am no less than the son of God. For what purpose? 'if anyone eats this bread they will live forever'.

Just like the imagery of the bread as being symbolic of the body of Christ, as an element in the Communion we will share together shortly, this is the bread that gives life, through Jesus himself. It's clear that Jesus means on one level that this all depends on a moment that is not going to

happen right now, but at some momentous point in the future. There is an age ahead of us – a different dimension to our existence that is to do with our soul, something transcendent that is not just about our rational senses, our mind and our body. In verse 51, Jesus says if anyone eats this bread, accepts him as their Lord and Saviour and as the son of God who died and rose again, if you do that, when those events come, you will live in eternity.

What a promise of the bread of life! But is that all that this bread has got? Like the astronauts who walked on the moon, do we have the time between now and then to while away the months and years, knowing that nothing can ever match such a moment. Not so said Jesus as he continued in verse 51, 'the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I give for the life of the world'.

He talked of the Kingdom of God coming near. Of a healing and restoration in the here and now, of transformation of people and communities. So live lives then that are distinctively with God – lives of faith and love and hope, serving God and each other. Be part of communities that will embody the kingdom of God locally. The kingdom of God is about eternity, but it is also about the here and now. Christ invites us to join him right now in a new way of life before death.

When we take the real bread in Communion, Christ speaks to us there as well, in that very act, not just of the past, not just of the future, but of the present, the here and now. Our lives in Christ are not defined by single moments. Do this, and remember me, said Christ. It's not just a memory or an act of sadness. Like the Passover festival in the Jewish tradition, it's a form of remembering that brings these events directly into the present. Jesus says, now do the essence of what I have done. He means that by sharing Communion with our brothers and sisters and with Him, we are implicated in his Gospel which we must live out in our everyday lives.



might have had some help!

It seems to me that the Christian faith of Queen Elizabeth II led her to understand deeply its implications for the whole direction of her life's work and not just in its key moments. In a Christmas message about 20 years ago, she said:

The true measure of Christ's influence is not only in the lives of the saints but also in

Just over four years ago, I had the great pleasure and privilege of leading worship one autumn Sunday morning at Crathie Kirk before the Queen and the Royal Family, and of spending that weekend in their company as a guest at Balmoral. The Queen's public persona was not contradicted by her private one, and, in fact, I left with an even deeper sense of respect for her as a person. Memories I will never forget of an hour in conversation with her in the drawing room; of being driven by her across the Balmoral Estate to and from our Saturday night barbecue; of being seated to her right at dinner the following evening; and of the two of us meeting in the corridor after we had both rushed to be dressed in time for it, my kilt and jacket all over the place and the Queen looking suitably regal, with her saying to me, 'I think I have just beaten you to it, but then again I

the good works quietly done by millions of men and women day in and day out throughout the centuries. Many will have been inspired by Jesus' simple but powerful teaching: love God and love thy neighbour as thyself... I know just how much I rely on my own faith: to guide me through the good times and the bad...to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God.

We give thanks to God today for her life, and her commitment and desire to live that life in the service of others. We give thanks too for her faith, so deeply expressed in the words of that message: to love God and your neighbour, and in good works day by day to live that out, always trusting in God to lead the way.

And so her life is not defined by one moment, be it her coronation or her passing to another realm last Thursday. For in Elizabeth's belief and trust in Jesus Christ, seen in everyday action through all of her many days on this earth, she too has eaten of the bread of life – a gift of God from here to eternity; to the moon, the stars and beyond. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Departures

Jan Melvin

Wade and Katherine Robertson



Youth programme activities have been off to a great start this new school term, and we are excited about all that is on the calendar between now and Christmas! It has been a few editions since we have posted an update, so I will briefly summarise all that's been happening with the young people since Easter 2022.

In the run up to Easter and on the Sundays following, we had a full Youth Group schedule on Sunday evenings with activities such as our Doodles outing, social justice and race discussion night, Mardi Gras Lent party, prayer and sabbath night, mini-golf outing, refugee discussion night, film night, sport night and our end-of-the-year party. It was a nice balance of thought-provoking conversations about our faith intersecting with the world around us, as well as fun experiences together as a community.

The first weekend in June 2022 we had our first ever MSPC Youth Weekend Away for P6-S6 youth at Whitaugh Park, a Rock UK Centre located in Newcastleton. It was a brilliant weekend full of fun outdoor

activities and community fellowship! We got lucky with some warm and sunny weather, which added to the weekend's success. We are already looking forward to going back next year!

On 19 June we held our second Youth-led joint morning service with young people participating in leading the music, readings and prayers. Some of the young people in S6 offered reflections on their faith journey in the service, and we celebrated transition as they looked ahead to the future. We had a lovely BBQ in the garden following the service to raise money for the DEC appeal for Ukraine, as well as for the Youth Programming at MSPC; £486 was raised and split between both funds. It was a joy to see everyone in the church community worshipping and sharing in fellowship together. Many thanks again to all the youth, adult and parent volunteers who made this morning possible by offering their many talents and gifts. Thank you also for the very generous donations from everyone! We will be having another youth-led morning service on 20 November and look forward to getting young people involved again.

YOUTH WEEKEND



Over the summer holidays we had a few opportunities for our young people to join in: the Rob Bell outing in Glasgow for S6 and university-aged youth, and the Bethany Christian Trust service project and Fringe outing for S2-S6 youth.

Before we knew it, the new school year was just around the corner and a full programme schedule was set for the remainder of 2022. We've started off Youth Group this year with a pizza party and an Arthur's Seat walk and look forward to all the exciting events ahead of us.

A few other final updates: The Sunday School has been renamed 'Young Church,' and this term when the 12-16+ Breakfast Club is on, we will be exploring our faith

traditions and beliefs together as we wonder why we do what we do in church. Youth Worship will also continue to be held in the Bill McDonald Hall, with our next service on 27 November at 7pm.

Over the coming months, we will continue to have our weekly prayer space on Instagram and monthly drop-in café meetings for the S4-S6s.

If you are interested in learning more about what else goes on for the children and young people at MSPC, please get in touch with me! Programme schedules can be found online or in the church hall.

Hillary Leslie

GINGERBREAD



UKRAINE



OUR DEFIBRILLATORS



External Defibrillator

At Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church, we have two automated external defibrillators (AEDs). One is situated on the external wall to the right of the halls entrance on West Mayfield. The other is situated inside just to the right of the information screen.

The external machine is part of the network of community defibrillators and is registered with the ambulance service.

You must first call 999 and the operator will requested the Emergency Reference which is displayed on a plaque to the left of the Defibrillator Box, the reference number is 'SJS 170' , once this is known the operator will be able to provide the access code for the Defibrillator box. Although there is no need to call 999 to operate this AED, calling 999 is the first step in any emergency response.

In either case the emergency call operator will ask that someone stay with the casualty and carry out CPR while another fetches the AED.

Using the AED Switch on the AED. The AED will then provide voice prompts explaining how to apply the pads and operate the device.

For more information www.youtube.com/watch?v=UfvL7wTFz10 for a video demonstrating how to use an AED.



Internal Defibrillator

GIFT SERVICES



SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2022

I have been in touch with the Minister and our annual Gift Services will be held on Advent Sunday, 27 November.

Huge appreciation was expressed by our partner organisations last year when need was heightened during the pandemic. It is already clear that a major cost of living crisis is upon us, and many families will struggle financially again this year. Buying Christmas gifts may have to be a low priority for them.

What's needed?

Partner organisations are:

Gilmerton Early Years' Project (0-5years): Simpson House Sunflower Garden (CrossReach for the children of service users): Women's Aid (children through teens): Stopover (Teens): Salvation Army (children through teens): HMP Edinburgh (children through teens).

Toys for babies and children; colouring books, art materials, play-doh and plasticine; games for children and teens; books and toiletries as appropriate. Headphones were much sought after in North Edinburgh. Footballs and associated

football kit is popular, too. All items should be new and gift tags and wrapping paper are useful. While working from home was in operation, Women's Aid found Gift tokens for Morrison's and Sainsbury's supermarkets very useful, and they continue to be most acceptable.

With thanks but alcohol and second-hand items cannot be placed.

Cash Donations:

I appreciate that in current circumstances some of you will be reluctant to go shopping. If you would like to make a financial donation, I shall be happy to do the shopping for you. You can send me a cheque payable to Mayfield Salisbury Church c/o Mayfield Salisbury Church, 18 West Mayfield, EH9 1TQ. Or you can make a bank transfer to Mayfield Salisbury Church (details on request). Please put "Gift Service" as the reference in a bank transfer and in a covering note if your cheque is made out to the church.

Updates in Pew Notices will follow in late October and November.

Anne Graham

0131 667 6331

annegraham55@hotmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER 2022

- Thu 6 2.00pm Thursday Club - Bill McDonald Hall
3.30pm to 5.00pm Youth: s4-s6 Cafe drop-in @ Costa Holy Corner
- Sun 9 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
9.30am All-Age Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
10.45am Traditional Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
6.15pm to 8.00pm: All-Age Youth Group
- Tue 11 10.00am Morning Prayers
- Thu 13 2.00pm Thursday Club - Bill McDonald Hall
- Sun 16 10.30am Harvest Thanksgiving at Mayfield Salisbury Church - Pentecost +19**
Guest Preacher: Revd Sally Foster Fulton, Head of Christian Aid in Scotland
This is a joint service with Craigmillar Park and Priestfield Churches and will be followed by a soup and cheese lunch in support of Christian Aid.
6.15pm to 7.15pm: P6-S1 Youth Group
7.15pm to 9.00pm: S2-S6 Youth Group
- Tue 18 10.00am Morning Prayers
- Thu 20 2.00pm Thursday Club - Bill McDonald Hall
- Sun 23 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**
10.30am Joint Service of Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
7.00pm Service of Holy Communion (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
- Tue 25 10.00am Morning Prayers
- Thu 27 2.00pm Thursday Club - Bill McDonald Hall
- Sun 30 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost**
9.30am All-Age Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
10.45am Traditional Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)

NOVEMBER 2022

- Tue 1 10.00am Morning Prayers
- Thu 3 2.00pm Thursday Club - Bill McDonald Hall
- Sun 6 All Saints**
9.30am All-Age Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
10.45am Traditional Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
6.15pm to 8.00pm: All-Age Youth Group
- Tue 8 10.00am Morning Prayers
- Thu 10 2.00pm Thursday Club - Bill McDonald Hall
3.30pm to 5.00pm Youth: s4-s6 Cafe drop-in @ Costa Holy Corner
- Sat 12 10.30am - 12.00pm: Scout, Cub and Beaver Coffee Morning**
- Sun 13 Remembrance Sunday - Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**
9.30am All-Age Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
10.45am Traditional Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
6.00pm to 7.00pm: All-Age Youth Group - LockEdinburgh @ Summerhall

NOVEMBER 2022 continued

Tue 15 10.00am Morning Prayers
2.30pm Afternoon Service

Thu 17 2.00pm Thursday Club - Bill McDonald Hall

Sun 20 Christ the King
10.30am Joint Service of Worship (Youth-Led)
6.15pm to 8.00pm: All-Age Youth Group
7.00pm Service of Holy Communion (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)

Tue 22 10.00am Morning Prayers

Thu 24 2.00pm Thursday Club - Bill McDonald Hall

Sun 27 First Sunday of Advent - GIFT SERVICES!!!
9.30am All-Age Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
10.45am Traditional Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
7.00pm Youth Worship Evening

Tue 29 10.00am Morning Prayers

DECEMBER 2022

Thu 3 2.00pm Thursday Club - Bill McDonald Hall

Sun 4 10.30am Joint Service of Worship at Craigmillar Park Church
No morning service at Mayfield Salisbury. Please support this service
with our friends from Craigmillar Park and Priestfield Churches

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

October

1	Isaiah	61,62	/	Hebrews	12
2	Isaiah	63,64	/	Hebrews	13
3	Isaiah	65,66	/	John	1
4	Jeremiah	1,2	/	Psalms	112,113
5	Jeremiah	3,4	/	John	2
6	Jeremiah	5,6	/	John	3
7	Jeremiah	7,8	/	Psalms	114,115
8	Jeremiah	9,10	/	John	4
9	Jeremiah	11,12	/	John	5
10	Jeremiah	13,14	/	John	6
11	Jeremiah	15,16	/	Psalms	116
12	Jeremiah	17,18	/	John	7
13	Jeremiah	19,20	/	John	8
14	Jeremiah	21,22	/	Psalms	117,118
15	Jeremiah	23,24	/	John	9
16	Jeremiah	25,26	/	John	10
17	Jeremiah	27,28	/	John	11
18	Jeremiah	29,31	/	Psalms	119: 1-24
19	Jeremiah	32,33	/	John	12
20	Jeremiah	34,35	/	John	13
21	Jeremiah	36,37	/	Psalms	119: 25-48
22	Jeremiah	38,39	/	John	14
23	Jeremiah	40,41	/	John	15
24	Jeremiah	42,43	/	John	16
25	Jeremiah	44-46	/	Psalms	119: 49-72
26	Jeremiah	47,48	/	John	17
27	Jeremiah	49,50	/	John	18
28	Jeremiah	51,52	/	Psalms	119: 73-96
29	Lamentations	1,2	/	John	19
30	Lamentations	3-5	/	John	20
31	Ezekiel	1	/	John	21

November

1	Ezekiel	2,3	/	Psalms	119: 97-120
2	Ezekiel	4,5	/	James	1
3	Ezekiel	6,7	/	James	2
4	Ezekiel	8,9	/	Psalms	119: 121-144
5	Ezekiel	10,11	/	James	3
6	Ezekiel	12,13	/	James	4
7	Ezekiel	14,15	/	James	5
8	Ezekiel	16,17	/	Psalms	119: 145-176
9	Ezekiel	18,19	/	Peter	1
10	Ezekiel	20,21	/	Peter	2
11	Ezekiel	22,23	/	Psalms	120-122
12	Ezekiel	24,25	/	Peter	3
13	Ezekiel	26,27	/	Peter	4
14	Ezekiel	28,29	/	Peter	5
15	Ezekiel	30,31	/	Psalms	123-125
16	Ezekiel	32,33	/	Peter	1
17	Ezekiel	34,35	/	Peter	2
18	Ezekiel	36,37	/	Psalms	126-128
19	Ezekiel	38,39	/	Peter	3
20	Ezekiel	40,41	/	John	1
21	Ezekiel	42,43	/	John	2
22	Ezekiel	44,45	/	Psalms	129-131
23	Ezekiel	46,47	/	John	3
24	Ezekiel	48	/	John	4
25	Daniel	1-3	/	Psalms	132-134
26	Daniel	4,5	/	John	5
27	Daniel	6,7	/	John	1
28	Daniel	8,9	/	John	1
29	Daniel	10-12	/	Psalms	135,136
30	Hosea	1,2	/	Jude	1

December

1	Hosea	3-6	/	Revelation	1
2	Hosea	7,8	/	Psalms	137,138

WHO'S WHO IN MAYFIELD SALISBURY

Mayfield Salisbury Parish (Edinburgh) Church of Scotland. Scottish Charity Number SC000785

Minister

Revd Dr Alexander Forsyth AForsyth@churchofscotland.org.uk 0131 667 1286

Pastoral Assistant

Kay McIntosh DCS pastoralassistantms@gmail.com 0758 704 3191

Youth Worker

Hillary Leslie Hillary.MayfieldYouth@gmail.com 0745 372 2224

Church Manager

William Mearns churchmanager@googlemail.com 0780 801 1234

Organist

Kate Pearson kate.q.kate@gmail.com 0744 238 2296

Session Clerk

Boyd McAdam clerkmssc@gmail.com 0777 358 7579

Treasurer

John Graham culkein@btinternet.com 0131 667 6331

Safeguarding Co-ordinators

Aileen Nimmo and Dougie Robertson mayfieldsafeguarding@gmail.com 0131 667 1522

Gift Aid Donations & Roll Keeper

Hugh Somerville hs.somerville2@gmail.com 0131 466 2446

Mayfield Radio Unit

The Studio mayfieldradiounit@gmail.com 0131 667 7742

Front Cover: Part of the 'Mary' Window, South Aisle, Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church

Church Address and Office

18 West Mayfield, Edinburgh, EH9 1TQ
0131 667 1522 or churchmanager@googlemail.com

Pastoral Care

For Home or Hospital visits, please contact the Pastoral Assistant, Kay McIntosh DCS.

Staff Days Off

Minister: Mondays
Pastoral Assistant: Friday & Saturday
Youth Worker: Friday & Saturday
Manager: Monday-PM & Fridays

Social Media Accounts

-  www.facebook.com/MayfieldSalisbury
-  www.youtube.com/c/MayfieldSalisburyParishChurch
-  www.flickr.com/photos/98063709@N06
-  www.twitter.com/churchscotland
-  www.instagram.com/the.msyt
-  www.mayfieldsalisbury.org



The Church of Scotland

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Copy date for next Issue:

6.00pm on Friday

18 November 2022

Print Run: Large - 5 - 305 total